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ganization. Every scientific worker and all those who appreciate the fundamental place of science in national welfare should unite to do their part through our scientific organizations. They should be members, and active members, of the special society in their field, of their local society or academy, and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The next meeting of the American Association and its affiliated societies will be held in St. Louis, beginning on December 29, 1919. The occasion should be taken to strengthen the association and its work in the central states, which have in recent years assumed such leadership in scientific research. We may be sure that the scientific men of Washington University and the City of St. Louis will do their part. It would be well if the meetings might be celebrated by the affiliation with the association of the strong state and city academies of the Central States and the organization of a central branch of the association on the lines that have proved so successful on the Pacific Coast.

THE INTERALLIED CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION

AT a meeting of representatives of scientific academies of the allied countries and the United States, held in London on the invitation of the Royal Society in October, a committee of enquiry was formed, which met in Paris at the end of November. The delegates in attendance were: *Belgium*—MM. Leconte, Massart, de la Vallée Poussin; *Brazil*—M. de Carvalho; *France*—MM. Painlevé, Guignard, E. Picard, A. Lacroix, Lippman, E. Perrier, Roux, Haller, Bigourdan, Bailaud, Lallemand, Moureu, Flahault; *Italy*—Sen. V. Volterra, Professors

Reina, Nasini, Ricco, Fantoli; *Japan*—Professors Tanakadate and Sakurai; *Poland*—M. L. Mickiewicz; *Rumania*—MM. Soutzo, Hurmuzeco, Mrazzee, Marinesco; *Serbia*—MM. Zujovio, Petrovitch, Jopovitch; *United Kingdom*—Professor Schuster, Mr. J. H. Jeans, Sir Frank Dyson, Sir E. Sharpey Schafer, Professors Frankland, Sherrington, and Starling, Col. Lyons, Dr. Knott; *United States of America*—Professor Bumstead, Col. Carty, Drs. Durand, Flexner, Hale, Noyes.

An International Research Council was formed, and a committee of five was elected consisting of MM. Picard (chairman), Volterra, Leconte, Hale, and Schuster. The seat of the bureau is to be in London. It is understood that the organization and arrangements are provisional, to be confirmed later by the academies and societies which enter the movement.

One of the organizations planned is an International Geophysical Union, which is intended to be controlled by an international committee consisting of representatives of international councils and of delegates appointed by the governments. The number of delegates is to be proportional to the size of the nation, as is the contribution by each. Only those nations that have been at war with Germany may enter the union, but arrangements may later be made for the admission of neutral nations.

SCIENTIFIC ITEMS

WE record with regret the death of Wallace Clement Sabine, professor of physics at Harvard University and formerly dean of the Lawrence Scientific School; of Rossitier Worthington Raymond, the well-known mining engineer, and of Robert John Pocock, director of the Nizamiah Observatory, Hyderabad.